

WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report January 2006

1. [Spokane International Has New Airport Director](#)
2. [WSDOT Takes Lead on Northwest Air Service Grant Web Communications](#)
3. [WSDOT Aviation Participates in Eatonville Workshop on Airport Land Use Compatibility](#)
4. [WSDOT Announces Second Round of Grants, New Online Application Form](#)

Spokane International Has New Airport Director

The Spokane Airport Board recently announced the selection of Neal Sealock to serve as the Airport Director overseeing Spokane International



Airport, Felts Field, and the Airport Business Park. Spokane airports are jointly owned by Spokane County and the City of Spokane under a joint agreement. The operating authority of Spokane airports is the Spokane Airport Board, consisting of seven appointees from the two governmental bodies. Mr. Sealock retired from the United States Army in May 2005 with the rank of Brigadier General. He is a rated pilot, Army aviator, and flight instructor. During his career, he was the Commander of the Aviation Brigade at Ft. Rucker, Alabama that included over 4,000 personnel. Mr. Sealock earned a baccalaureate degree in Military Science from Eastern Washington University and a master's degree in International Relations from Troy State. WSDOT Aviation plans to involve Mr. Sealock in the long-term aviation capacity study, which highlights Spokane as one of the areas of strategic importance to the commercial aviation system in Washington State.

WSDOT Takes Lead on Northwest Air Service Grant Web Communications

Recently key players working on the Northwest Air Service Grant agreed to post all relevant information and updates regarding the grant on WSDOT Aviation's Web site. Representatives from Oregon and Washington will use Aviation's Web site to direct interested parties to updated news and facts about the grant. WSDOT Aviation looks forward to receiving updates from Oregon and Washington participants for its Web site updates, as well as from consultant, Mead & Hunt. On August 25, 2005 a consortium of Washington and Oregon communities was awarded a federal grant to help improve scheduled airline service. The consortium is led by the Washington and Oregon Aviation Divisions and the Washington and Oregon Airport Management Associations. Through these groups, several individual communities have committed to work together to improve air service options. More information on the Northwest Air Service Grant is available at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/news/2005/05_1129ImproveRuralAirSvc.htm

WSDOT Aviation Participates in Eatonville Workshop on Airport Land Use Compatibility

Mayor Tom Smallwood invited WSDOT Aviation staff to join the new Swanson Field advisory committee in Eatonville on Wednesday for a workshop on land use compatibility. The meeting was the first for the new committee, which is composed of residents, planning commission members and town planners. The town council has asked the committee to recommend development regulations that would discourage incompatible land uses adjacent to Swanson Field airport consistent with state guidelines. WSDOT Aviation presented a brief overview of the state's Airports & Compatible Land Use guidelines at the workshop, illustrating the particular difficulty the group will face in addressing federal height regulations. The committee's challenge is significant – several structures have been constructed within 125 feet of the runway at Swanson Field, and there is potential for up to 124 additional structures in the town's airport district. In letters, emails and public testimony dating back to March 2005, the state has emphasized the need for Eatonville to minimize airspace obstructions to protect safety for people in the air and on the ground. The group discussed the range of options available for addressing these issues. The Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB) has given the Town of Eatonville a February deadline to adopt development regulations consistent with its comprehensive plan and in consultation with WSDOT Aviation. The town will request an extension to provide the committee additional time to complete its work.



WSDOT Announces Second Round of Grants, New Online Application Form

WSDOT Aviation recently announced to Washington State airport sponsors that it is now accepting applications for Local Airport Aid Grants. This is the second round of grants WSDOT has offered during the 2005 – 2007 biennium. Airport sponsors can now use WSDOT's [new and improved online grant application form](#). The new application allows airport sponsors to fill in their information online. Since a signature is required, airport sponsors will still have to print, sign and mail the application form with supporting documentation. WSDOT will also continue to accept typed or handwritten applications. Applications must be submitted to WSDOT Aviation no later than March 3, 2006. We will review and prioritize applications during the month of March to coincide with the Legislature's budget appropriation. Grant awards will be announced in April 2006.

While the exact amount of funds available to grant in this round has yet to be determined, WSDOT anticipates that as much as \$1.5 million may be available for eligible projects. This is pending the approval by the Legislature of a Supplemental Budget Request. WSDOT's Local Airport Aid Grant Program is funded through aviation fuel and aircraft registration fees. View more information about the Local Airport Aid Grant Program at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/grants/default.htm.